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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
TOPIC	Area of the Mechanized Division Potsdam Including Training Area East of Kietz		
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT			
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	30 July 1954
REFERENCES			
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS	This is UNEVALUATED		637969

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1. On 1 July 1954, the Ruinenberg Kaserne in Potsdam was occupied by an estimated 1,200 KVPs. On 2 July, two infantry companies with blue service color and a company, the soldiers of which wore red-bordered black epaulets, drilled in the barracks yard. The latter group drilled on 3 x 57-mm AT guns.
2. On 5 July, the General-Wever Kaserne in Potsdam-Golm was occupied by several KVP units including signal units, AT units and tanks. On 7 July, 3 trucks, each occupied by 16 KVPs with blue service color, left the installation for the firing ranges on Marquardter Chaussee.<sup>1</sup>
3. In early July, the Garde-du-Corps Kaserne was occupied by about 500 KVPs of an artillery unit.<sup>2</sup>
4. On 2 July, the Soviet-occupied section of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp in Oranienburg was vacant. At about 2300, a KVP train, which carried elements of the unit stationed in the Oranienburg castle, was seen at the Oranienburg railroad station. The 2d, 4th and 5th Cos of this unit allegedly transferred to the Zingst area on the Baltic Sea for firing practices.<sup>3</sup> and <sup>4</sup>
5. The section of the Oranienburg concentration camp which had been vacated by Soviet units was gradually occupied by KVPs. On 5 July, the guard houses were occupied by KVPs and several groups were cleaning the installation. The fence between the quarters was being dismantled. Soviet soldiers and KVPs dismantled low wooden temporary buildings, which were shipped away.<sup>3</sup>
6. On 6 July, 20 new trucks entered the concentration camp. KVPs received infantry training, drill on about 20 x 37-mm AA guns and training with T-34 tanks in the yard of the installation. Three to four T-34 tanks daily went to the tank training area. BA-64 armored scout cars engaged in exercises near Lehnitzschleuse (lock) and Schmachtenhagen. Four trucks, each occupied by 20 KVPs with submachine guns, went to the firing range near the brick works every morning.

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7. Every morning, 60 to 80 officer candidates from the Oranienburg castle entered the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. At about 1700, they returned to the castle.<sup>5</sup>

8. Workers of the Bauunion Kueste had been employed in the construction of new quarters for KVP in the installation since late June.<sup>3</sup>

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9. In early July, intensive construction work was under way at the KVP training area in the Klietz-Mahlitz-Ferchels area. The program included the construction of quarters and gun emplacements. Telephone lines were strung between Klietz and the training area. Large quantities of construction materials arrived from Rathenow. On 25 June, about 60 tents for personnel and about 40 trucks were seen on the Ferchels-Steckelsdorf road. On 2 July, 6 trucks towing guns and about 60 to 70 KVPs were seen between Mahlitz and Klietz.<sup>6</sup>

1. Comment. The General-Wever Kaserne is believed to be occupied by one reconnaissance battalion, the signal battalion and rear services of the Mechanized Division Potsdam. The AT guns and tanks observed belong to the reconnaissance battalion.

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2. Comment. The installation is occupied by the AAA regiment of the Mechanized Division Potsdam.

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3. Comment. The section of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp which was previously occupied by Soviet troops, had been vacated in late June 1954. The dismantled, low, wooden, temporary buildings probably were to be replaced by new quarters constructed by the Bauunion Kueste.

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4. Comment. Another source also reported a shipment which went from Oranienburg to Zingst on 2 July. The AAA school in Oranienburg probably conducted firing with live ammunition at the AAA firing range near Zingst.

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5. Comment. It is assumed that the officer candidates from Oranienburg AAA school received instruction on AA guns stored in the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. The number of guns, however, appears rather high.

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6. Comment. According to deserters, the 3d Mech Regt Hohenstuecken was employed in construction work at the training area. Elements of KVP units from Oranienburg may be also stationed in the training area.

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. It is possible that the training area is being prepared for the Mechanized Division Potsdam.

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